

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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MANUFACTURERS NOW THREATENED WITH GREAT STRIKE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ANOTHER AMERICAN SHIP TORPEDOED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ AND SENT TO BOTTOM BY SUBMARINE

REMINGTON PLANTS CLOSE DOORS AGAINST RETURNING MACHINISTS

Strikers, Returning in Good Faith to Keep Agreement, Are Refused Employment, and Ironworkers Promptly Quit on Remington Construction Work.

SITUATION GROWS MORE GRAVE AND MACHINISTS PREPARE FOR BATTLE

Locomotive Company Soon to Be Target For Strike Activities—Pickets Remain on Jobs in Smaller Plants Where Strike Settlement Had Been Expected Today.

To-day—the day when it was expected Bridgeport's strike of organized labor against the Remington Arms plants for better conditions, would be ended by the return of machinists to work, the situation here became worse than ever.

Taking in good faith representations that the Remington Arms plants officials had acceded to the demands of labor, the machinists who had gone on strike went to the Remington Arms factories on Boston avenue this morning and found the doors closed against them.

They were not wanted. The striking millwrights were received and the striking ironworkers were welcomed. They started to work on the construction of the vast new buildings. When they heard however, of the rebuff with which the machinists had met, they walked out in a body.

The strike is now at a worse stage than it has been since it was instituted. Labor leaders, incensed at what they assert was "double-crossing," have declared off all negotiations with sub-contracting factories affected by the strike, and they are bending their efforts to make the Remington Arms concern capitulate.

Six hundred carpenters, it is threatened, will quit to-day or to-morrow at the behest of the labor leaders, and will thereby tie up finally all construction work of the Remington plants.

Eighteen more factories, all of which are making machinery or tools for the Remington Arms plants, will be officially declared under strike conditions to-morrow morning, and the men will be ordered out of them, unless the Remington plants' misunderstandings are cleared up.

Proceedings will be instituted to tie up the sub-contracting work that is being done in Worcester, Mass., a city of machine shops so that the Remington Arms plants will be crippled as far as possible.

Twelve hundred machinists and members of allied crafts employed at the plant of the Locomobile Co. of America will be organized into a union, probably to act separately from the No. 50 local, which is the main branch in this neighborhood.

Temporary agreements, which were expected to be ratified today with the Bridgeport Engineering Co. and the Gaynor Manufacturing Co., will be called off until the Remington Arms plants trouble may be settled.

It is understood that the claim has been advanced by officials of the Remington Arms plants that they knew of and had been informed of no agreement. It is understood it is denied that any official of that company signed any agreement.

All was expected to be peaceful to-day. It was understood, according to the assertions of labor leaders, that the concessions had been granted by the Remington Arms plants officials, that the men could now resume work at the Remington plants and that negotiations for settling the trouble with other plants in the city would be immediately undertaken and from favorable appearances, would be concluded in a manner equally beneficial for the strikers and their employers.

All that was changed this morning in the neighborhood of 8 o'clock when it became known that the striking machinists, acting in the belief that their troubles had been settled and that they were to return to work under better conditions than formerly, were refused entrance to the Remington plants and were informed that they were not wanted.

The millwrights and the ironworkers who had returned to work, were scarcely started on resumption of construction where they left off, when the word was conveyed to them that the machinists had been barred from the factories. They waited a short while for confirmation, and then they quit in a body.

No demonstration was made. They went to where the machinists had congregated outside the factory entrance, and were discussing the strange and totally unlooked-for state of affairs. Then, when it was seen that the company was firm in the new stand, the groups dispersed and wandered their way to machinists' headquarters.

Immediately, when the labor leaders realized the sudden turn of affairs, arrangements were made to resume the campaign against the Remington Arms plants on a grander scale than before.

There will be no quibbling this time, according to the labor leaders, who declare that they will cripple the concern by shutting off its supplies from sub-contracting and by gradually drawing out the men in the factories of the plants.

Six hundred carpenters will quit work on the construction end, it is announced, because of the close affiliation of the ironworkers, carpenters and machinists.

Strike orders will be issued to the employees of the 18 factories, which have been marked as concerns "feeding" the Remington Arms plants, and according to an assertion today, the men will be drawn out of those factories all at once.

Agitation will be begun in Worcester, on the machine shops of which the Remington Arms plants depend greatly, and it is likely strike conditions will be established there. Eight hours is desired and the time is ripe, it is declared.

One vital blow will be the thing, say the strike leaders. A strike of the carpenters, agitation of the Worcester shops, strike conditions in 18 more factories here, and organization of the Locomobile employees will be done all at once.

A big machine shop in Hyde Park, Mass., where much work is being done for the Remington plants, will be crippled, it is asserted by the labor leaders.

What caused the sudden change today is not definitely known. J. J. Keppler, vice president of the International Association of Machinists, announced Saturday that an agreement had been reached between the strikers, the Remington Arms plants officials and the Stewart Construction Co., whereby the men would go back to work today under new and better working conditions.

The Remington Arms officials, however, spouted the program. It is understood they make the assertion that they know of no such agreement.

Samuel P. Fryer, vice president of the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., and president of the Chemical National bank, one of the great financial concerns of New York, is credited today with having been the man who went over Major Walter G. Penfield's head in the strike negotiations. For several reasons, however, the labor leaders do not wish it known with whom the negotiations were carried on and no confirmation of this belief could be obtained.

General strike conditions will be put into effect tomorrow if it is found that the details of the agreement, as outlined by leader Keppler, have not been kept.

It was expected today by labor leaders and officials of the Coulter & MacKenzie Co., the Grant Manufacturing Co., the Bridgeport Engineering Co., and the Gaynor Manufacturing Co., that negotiations would be entered into, and in fact, temporary agreements had been made with two of the concerns involved, but it was

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WEATHER FORECAST

Fair to-night and Tuesday.

Johnston's Statement

"I expect my men to go back to work to-morrow morning, unless the matter now being taken up with the New York office of the Stewart Construction Co., is not settled to-day by McClorry who is there to-day. This matter has nothing to do with the other unions, and only arose to-day. I know that the Stewart people will not stand in the way of a settlement."

Of course if the Manufacturers' Association want to stir things up here we are ready to meet them and the troubles here will be greater than they have ever been.

Keppler's Statement

"I am going to New York tonight. With pickets kept on the job nothing will be done here until I come back. If the agreements we made on Thursday are not put into effect, it will mean that the strikers will be placed on the pay rolls of the union and it will mean a prolonged fight, such as has been in effect at the Coe-Stapley plant here for over a year. We never stop picketing when we begin as the Coe-Stapley people can tell you."

Flynn's Statement

"I must stay here until this job is settled. Further than that I cannot say anything at the present time."

PROMINENT MEN ARE SUMMONED IN HILL PROBE

Counsel For Respondent Fails to Produce Needed Witnesses.

HILL'S ACCOUNTING CAREFULLY CHECKED Bridgeport Manufacturer Is Among Those to Take Stand Wednesday.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Stamford, July 25.—Subpoenas will be issued today by Special Commissioner Walter Maguire for thirteen prominent Fairfield County residents who are wanted as witnesses in connection with the investigation of the alleged financial dealings of the late J. J. Hill as congressman from the Fourth district.

The witnesses were sought by Homer Cummings, counsel for Donavan, who requested Hill's counsel to have them at the hearing. This was agreed to, but the witnesses failed to appear when the hearing was resumed.

Included in the witnesses to be subpoenaed are F. J. Kingsbury, president and manager of the Bridgeport Brass Co.; Frederick Rhodes, secretary of the Salt's Textile Co.; Elmore S. Banks, treasurer of the Republican Town Committee, of Fairfield. Mr. Kingsbury and Mr. Rhodes were contributors to the famous \$10,000 election fund. Mr. Banks' report as town treasurer failed to acknowledge receipt of a contribution from A. C. Wheeler, keep of the dough bag for Hill.

Today's session of the hearing was brief and of little interest. It consisted mainly of an examination of Hill's election expense returns to the state and to the federal government. Several town committee treasurers were examined as to their reports. None of the treasurers were heard whose reports showed discrepancies in monies received from the congressional committee.

The hearing will be resumed Wednesday morning. As Mr. Hill expects to go on a vacation to the coast about August 1, the hearing will be concluded as rapidly as possible.

PADDOCK ASKS END OF RECEIVERSHIP

A motion for final judgment discharging Receiver Carlton Paddock and dissolving the Merchants' Express Co., will be argued Wednesday morning before Judge Williams in the superior court. Receiver Paddock has been conducting the business for a long time.

WILL RAISE EASTLAND IN QUEST FOR BODIES; DEATH LIST GROWING

Rescue Workers Plan to Dynamite River Bed To Free Bodies That May Be Caught in Mud—Red Cross Collecting \$300,000 Fund For Victims' Families—Number of Dead May Be More Than 1,500.

Chicago, July 26.—Plans for raising the steamer Eastland were completed to-day and the work will be begun as soon as the necessary machinery has been placed in position. When wrecking dredges have placed the steamer on its keel the hull will be pumped out and a careful search made for more bodies. Estimates of the dead continued to vary to-day between 1,000 and 1,500. Only part of the 1,000 bodies recovered have been identified.

It will take several days to raise the steamer. Dynamite will then be used in the river bed to release those bodies which may be stuck in the mud.

The rescue work at the steamer continued with a reduced force of divers today. F. H. Avery, in charge of the divers, reported to Coroner Hoffman that he believed there were about 200 bodies still in the steamer but feared they could not be recovered until the boat was raised.

Relief work was continued today under the direction of Mayor Thompson's advisory committee and the local chapter of the Red Cross society. Persons in every trade and industry are contributing to the fund. It was announced from the department that \$10,000 had been pledged and that the remainder of the \$300,000 is planned to raise would be available within 36 hours.

COMMISSIONERS WILL "GET" MOONEY AT ANY COST, NOW

To forestall any future action which Chief Edward Mooney of the fire department may make to retain his position, charges of insubordination will be made against him at the meeting of the board of fire commissioners tonight.

If the insubordination charges can be maintained by the commissioners they think Chief Mooney can be removed from the department. He will lose the \$1,500 pension of half pay, which they have voted him, to take effect from August 1st. By their vote at the meeting last Friday night, Chief Mooney was relieved from duty until August 1st, and ordered to go on leave of absence at 2 o'clock on Saturday morning.

The chief believing that his leave of absence was optional, reported for duty at 10 o'clock Saturday morning and continued on the job until a second notice to quit had been served on him and President Leonard of the fire board ordered him to quit as acting chief of the department.

All his life Chief Mooney has been a fighter. When convinced that he is right he has never stopped. This propensity of the chief, the fact he has retained legal counsel to look out for his interest and the possibility that he may bring legal proceedings in due time to make the commissioners show good faith in their retirement of him, the charge that he is physically unable to perform his duties, has the members of the commission in the air.

It has been common knowledge for some time that Chief Mooney had planned to retire from the pension list active and efficient members of both the fire and police departments who have given the best years of their lives to the service of the city. This plan was partly frustrated in the cold view which the general assembly took of the charter amendments which give the fire and police commissioners legal authority to make such retirements.

The retirement of Chief Mooney was brought about at a snap meeting of the commission held after other matters had been handled. Attorney John J. Cullinan had been assured by members of the commission that the retirement of the chief was not to be considered that evening. Attorney Cullinan left the Court Exchange building and five minutes after the board was called into executive session and the vote retiring the chief on the grounds of disability was put through.

To-night at the meeting of the commissioners Daniel A. Johnson, first assistant chief of the fire department and at present acting chief, will be named to succeed Chief Mooney after August 1st.

George F. Beardslee, oldest captain in the department in point of service will be named as second assistant. Capt. Beardslee's father was a former chief of the Bridgeport fire department. Jacob Horkheimer now second assistant chief will become the first assistant. Clerk Hall who is rated as third assistant chief will not be named.

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S. S. LEELANLAW, OF NEW YORK, IS SUNK BY UNDERSEA BOAT

London, July 26.—The American steamship Leelanaw, from Archangel, July 8, for Belfast, with a cargo of flax, was torpedoed and sunk yesterday by a German submarine off the northwest coast of Scotland.

All the members of the crew of the Leelanaw were saved. They were brought into Kirkwall in their own boats.

The Leelanaw was owned by the Harby Steamship Company, of New York. She was formerly called the Earnwell. She was 280 feet long and of 1,923 gross tonnage. She left Galveston May 5 and New York May 17 with a cargo of cotton for Archangel.

Vessel Detained By British

The steamer left New York, May 17 with a cargo of cotton consigned to Russia by way of Gothenburg. The vessel was detained at Kirkwall and released on June 26 with permission to proceed to Archangel, where the cotton was discharged and a cargo of flax was loaded for Belfast.

The Leelanaw was commanded by Captain D. B. Delk. Her crew consisted of seven officers and 32 men and her owners, the Harby Steamship Co. of New York, planned to return the Leelanaw in ballast to this country. The official statement of the German government issued April 18, 1915, set forth that flax is contraband of war.

WASHINGTON SHOCKED BY NEWS OF ATTACK ON AMERICAN SHIP

Washington, July 26.—The torpedoing of the American steamer Leelanaw is a shock to American officials who see in the incident further aggravation of the situation between Germany and the United States.

Details Are Awaited. Although they hesitated to-day, in the absence of details, to construe the act as coming within the warning of the last American note, which pointed out that further violation of international law affecting American citizens was to be regarded as "deliberately unfriendly," the view taken was that Germany, in effect, had ignored and disregarded an earlier note sent in connection with the sinking of the American sailing ship William

P. Frye by the German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich. In that communication, the United States vigorously asserted its position that even though an American ship carried contraband of war it was peculiarly protected from destruction by the stipulations of the Prussian-American agreement of 1872.

Flax which was being carried by the Leelanaw was declared absolute contraband by Germany on April 23, as retaliation against the British contraband declaration.

ENGLAND, IN REPLY TO PROTEST OF U. S. ON SHIPPING, DECLARES HER POSITION IS JUSTIFIABLE

Washington, July 26.—Great Britain's reply to the American note of March 30 protesting against enforcement of the orders in council which restrict neutral commerce, was received here today. It holds that the orders are within international law, although they may involve a new proclamation of principles and a judicial interpretation.

The new note, in the most courteous language, holds that Great Britain's action is justified by decisions of the United States supreme court in cases arising during the Civil War. Any differences with the United States with whatever is termed the new application of principles are held to be proper for submission to judicial settlement.

Secretary Lansing today announced receipt of the note but made no announcement of its contents. It will be forwarded to President Wilson at the summer White House at Cornish, N. H., and will be given out in Washington for publication in morning papers Wednesday.

Loewe & Co. To Foreclose On Union Men

Danbury, July 26.—A notice of intention to foreclose was filed here today by attorneys for D. E. Loewe & Company against 128 defendants in what is generally known as the Danbury hatmakers' case. The cases are return-

able to the United States district court in Hartford on September 4. Of the individual defendants against whom foreclosures are asked, 111 own property in Danbury. It are owners of property in Bethel and 19 have property in Norwalk. United States marshals are expected to begin the service of papers upon each of the defendants tomorrow.

Former Congressman

G. D. McCreary Dead

Philadelphia, July 26.—George D. McCreary, 59, who served ten years in Congress from the Sixth Pennsylvania district, retiring in 1912, died at his home here today.